

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 AF-06 EA-06 FEA-01 AGR-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 SAM-01 /126 W
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P R 052000Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1303

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, GY

SUBJECT: ACP CONFERENCE- GEORGETOWN, JUNE 4 AND MORNING JUNE 5.

REF: GEORGETOWN 829

1. SUMMARY: JUNE 4 SESSION INCLUDED MEETINGS OF SIX-NATION MINISTERIAL BUREAU AND COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS. DISAGREEMENT CONTINUED ON FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECRETARIAT. ONE REPORT STATED AD HOC SECRETARIAT WOULD REMAIN IN EXISTENCE THROUGHOUT REST OF 1975. ALL ACP MEMBER STATES NOW PRESENT EXCEPT BAHAMAS, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, MAURITANIA, AND WESTERN SAMOA. BURNHAM ADDRESSED FORMAL OPENING OF MINISTERIAL COUNCIL (JUNE 5). END SUMMARY.

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2. MINISTERIAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN LT. COL. R9J.A. FELLI (GHANA)

CHAired MINISTERIAL BUREAU MEETING (JUNE 4) WHICH APPROVED DRAFT AGENDA. AGENDA INCLUDES REVIEW OF COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS SINCE FORMULATION OF LOME CONVENTION; FORMALIZATION OF ACP GROUP; RULES GOVERNING NEW ORGANIZATION; BUDGET AND STRUCTURE OF SECRETARIAT; ESTABLISHMENT OF ACP-EEC CONSULTATIVE GROUP; AND APPLICATION FROM PAPUA/NEW GUINEA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN ACP. MEMBERS OF MINISTERIAL BUREAU INCLUDE IN ADDITION TO FELLI, RAMPHAL (GUYANA), MOKODOPO (CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC), RABUKAWAGA (FIJI), MULIRO (KENYA), AND SEKHONIANA (LESOTHO).

3. COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS ALSO MET JUNE 4, AND ATTEMPTED TO HAMMER OUT PROCEDURES TO FINANCE ACP SECRETARIAT. STILL UNABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT IN THIS REGARD, COMMITTEE DECIDED

TO PROPOSE

CONTINUANCE OF PRESENT AD HOC SECRETARIAT FOR REMAINDER OF THIS YEAR. COMMITTEE COMPLETED REPORT ON ACTIVITIES SINCE LOME, WHICH ADDRESSES ISSUE OF COMMODITIES PROBLEMS, SPECIFICALLY SUGAR AND MEAT. FYI: ON QUESTION OF SEC GEN FOR PROPOSED SECRETARIAT, ONE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL SOURCE ADVISED CHARGE THAT FRANCOPHONE REPS HOLDING OUT AGAINST ELECTION OF DJIM SYLLA (PRESENT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY) AND THIS STATEMATE MAY DELAY APPROVAL OF ENTIRE SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE. END FYI.

4. WITH ALL BUT FOUR (BAHAMAS, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, MAURITANIA, WESTERN SMOA) OF ACP COUNTRIES REPRESENTED, CONFERENCE WILL TODAY (JUNE 5) GET DOWN TO AGENDA ITEMS DURING AFTERNOON SESSION. GOG OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON PROGRESS OF CONFERENCE THUS FAR, ALTHOUGH TWO SOURCES NOTE THAT DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN BOGGED DOWN IN ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, AND IMPLY THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME DEGREE OF CONFUSION.

5. BURNHAM SPEECH OFFICIALLY OPENING MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING OFFERED NOTHING NEW, AND WAS ONLY MILDLY CONFRONTATIONAL. AFTER RECOUNTING BRIEF HISTORY OF ACP GROUP AND LAUDING LOME CONVENTION, BURNHAM CALLED FOR THIRD WORLD SOLIDARITY, REMINDED ACP MEMBERS OF THEIR QUOTE SOLEMN DUTY UNQUOTE TO OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND GOT IN A PLUG FOR THE UN ACTION PROGRAMME FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WHICH IS GUYANA'S PT THIRD-WORLD PROJECT.

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SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED AND BURHAM CAME ACROSS AS ELOQUENT THIRD-WORLD SPOKESMAN, WHICH HE IS. (EMBASSY POUCHING TRANSCRIPT OF SPEECH TO DEPT.)
MATTHEWS

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